

REMARKS

The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated November 15, 2005. Claims 2, 3, 6, and 7 are in the application, with Claim 7 being independent. Claims 1, 4, and 5 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 2, 3, 6, and 7 have been amended. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication of allowable subject matter in Claim 7.

Claims 1 to 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 3,472,776 (Derbyshire). The rejection is respectfully traversed, and is submitted to have been obviated by the amendments made herein.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to Applicants' undersigned representative during the telephone interview on March 3, 2006. During that interview, the Examiner agreed to enter the foregoing amendments. Further, the Examiner indicated that these amendments would overcome the outstanding rejection.

Accordingly, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Damond E. Vadnais
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 52,310

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

CA_MAIN 110236v1